

Message Text

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41

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 AID-05 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

IO-13 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SCCT-01 /065 W

----- 007002

R 241245Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1724

INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, PINT, BL

SUBJ: ARREST OF 12 TERRORIST ANNOUNCED

REF: LA PAZ 5712

1. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS JULY 22, GOB MINISTER OF INTERIOR JUAN PEREDA ANNOUNCED THE ARREST OF TWELVE MEMBERS OF THE PARTIDO REVOLUCIONARIO DE TRABAJADORES DE BOLIVIA (PRTB) OR OF ITS ARMED WING THE EJERCITO DE LIBERACION NACIONAL (ELN) IN COCHABAMBA AND IN LA PAZ. IN THE QUOTE SAFE HOUSES UNQUOTE OF THE TERRORISTS PEREDA STATED THAT THE POLICE HAD FOUND MODERN ARMS, SUBVERSIVE LITERATURE, AND TWELVE THOUSAND DOLLARS IN COUNTERFEIT BILLS. PEREDA ALSO CLAIMED THAT TWO FOREIGN GUERRILLAS (ARGENTINE LUIS STAMPONI AND URUGUAYAN ALBERTO VIROSTA) HAVE BEEN OPERATING IN BOLIVIA. ONE OF THE TWELVE ARRESTED, THE MINISTER ADDED, WAS AN ECUADORAN RODRIGO ANDRES CORDERO JARRIN - IMPLICATED IN THE RECENT DYNAMITING OF A HIGH VOLTAGE ELECTRIC TOWER IN COCHABAMBA.

2. THE MINISTER NOTED THAT AN ESCALATION OF GUERRILLA

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ACTIVITY IN BOLIVIA COULD NOT BE DISCOUNTED. HE

SAID THAT THE GOB WAS TIGHTENING CONTROL IN FRONTIER AREAS TO PREVENT THE INGRESS OF OTHER FOREIGN TERRORISTS. RESPONDING TO PRESS QUERIES, PEREDA STATED THAT ELN LEADER RUBEN SANCHEZ REPORTEDLY HAD LEFT BOLIVIA FOR PERU JULY 20.

3. COMMENT: THE SITUATION IN LA PAZ AND APPARENTLY THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY APPEARS QUITE CALM AND TRANQUIL. EARLIER EMBASSY COMMENT (REFTEL) COINCIDES WITH PEREDA'S ASSESSMENT THAT SOME SCATTERED ACTS OF SABOTAGE OR TERRORISM ARE A POSSIBILITY. HOWEVER, WIDESPREAD OR SYSTEMATIC TERRORIST ACTIVITY SEEMS VERY UNLIKELY.
STEDMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TERRORISTS, ARRESTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LAPAZ05868
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760286-0155
From: LA PAZ
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760725/aaaaavht.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 LA PAZ 5712
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 JUL 2004 by ellisoob>; APPROVED <25 OCT 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ARREST OF 12 TERRORIST ANNOUNCED
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, PINT, BL
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006